

## **Tillman PTO Meeting November 13, 2019**

Attendees: Kelly Struckhoff, Sadie Smith, Beth Quindry, Kristi Gunther, Jenny Donnelly, Sara Padin, Kelly Schneider, Kristin Levitt, Sarah Nepple, Jen Tranchilla, Rani Grady, Katie Molitor, Jamie Joyce, Vince Willoughby, Sara Fischer, Elizabeth Curtis, Sarah Hobler, Joy Hazan, Sean Stickles, Kimberly Singer, Emina Seevers, Amy Randles, Jennifer Stauber, Kelly Wiggins

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### **Eyeseeme Bookstore Book Fair**

#### **Welcome**

#### **Committee Updates:**

- KSD Foundation's Annual Turkey Day Chili Bowl will be the night before Thanksgiving. It is held at the high school from 5:00-7:30 p.m.
- A HUGE thank you to the New Family Welcome Committee for making the Veteran's Day reception on Friday such a special event.
- Sustainability – The Tillman community is thrilled to have chickens on our campus once again, and the sustainability committee is looking for volunteers to help care for our new friends. If your family would like to get involved, please look for a Sign-Up Genius link in the weekly EBlast.
- Fallapalooza parties are still available for purchase through the PTO Online Store. There are great options for kids and adults!
- Express Fund – We are less than \$1,500 away from our goal for the year. You can make a donation through the PTO Online Store: <http://tillmanpto.3dcartstores.com>

#### **KSDF Foundation Chili Bowl Raffle Winner is Laura Hamper!**



**Presentation – Eyeseeme Bookstore (<http://www.eyeseeme.com/>)**

**Presenter: Sarah Blair**

Store location: 7827 Olive Blvd., University City, MO 63130

Eyeseeme Bookstore's mission is to promote positive images and stories about African American culture and history. Providing these materials will benefit African American children by helping them see themselves respectfully represented in the literature they read, and will benefit non-African American children by dispelling negative and inaccurate stereotypical images of people of color.



**Presentation by We Stories (<http://www.westories.org/>)**

**Presenter: Adelaide Lancaster, Co-Founder of We Stories**

Studies have shown that having explicit conversations about race and interacting with diverse groups of people, even through picture books, helps to counteract the formation of bias. The materials that We Stories provides can help with these conversations. Tillman currently owns 10 We Stories kits, which can be checked out from the school library.

### Personal Introduction – Adelaide

Following the Michael Brown shooting, Adelaide experienced a moment of personal reckoning and asked herself, “How can I best be a part of the solution?”

### We Stories: Organization & Work

We Stories started with 80 pilot families.

750 predominantly white families have joined the We Stories community. We Stories also works with schools and libraries in the area.

We Stories provides a venue for opening up conversations about race through picture books, and helps families explore ways in which they can be good citizens.

### Counteracting Racial Bias

Flip the assumption: Children *are* noticing biases whether they are saying so or not.

Strategies: Start with a picture book; provide children with toys that show diversity.

- 1) Have explicit conversations about racism and skin color; narrate your experiences with racial bias
- 2) Learn about the history of discrimination and bias
- 3) Cross-group contact is important to breaking down barriers. As few as six picture books can make a difference in a child’s perspective about cross-race friendships.